

Message Text

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FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT MARY MCGRORY COLUMN WASHINGTON
STAR SUNDAY AUGUST 21 HEADED "IF IT'S THE SAME FOREIGN
POLICY, IT IS TO SHUDDER;"

2. JIMMY CARTER DOES RUN OFF AT THE MOUTH EVERY NOW AND
THEN.

3. LIKE THE OTHER DAY, WHEN HE STOOD UP IN THE OVAL
OFFICE AND TOLD HENRY KISSINGER THAT HE HAD TELEPHONED
GERALD FORD THAT VERY MORNING TO ASSURE HIM THAT THERE
IS AN "ABSOLUTE CONTINUUM OF WHAT YOU AND HE STARTED --
IN THE MIDDLE EAST, SOUTHERN AFRICA, PANAMA AND CHINA."

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4. FOR THOSE WHO VOTED LAST NOVEMBER FOR AN ABSOLUTE
DIS-CONTINUUM OF THE FORD-KISSINGER FOREIGN POLICY, IT
WAS TO SHUDDER.

5. AT HIS BRIEFING LATER IN THE DAY, WHITE HOUSE PRESS
SECRETARY JODY POWELL WAS PRESSED ON THE LITERAL TRUTH
OF THE STATEMENT.

6. WAS THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION REALLY CARRYING OUT THE KISSINGER POLICIES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, WHICH WERE, UNTIL HIS 11TH HOUR IN OFFICE, BASED ON HIS CELEBRATED HANGUP ABOUT "LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENTS?"

7. POWELL FROWNED AND FINALLY SAID, "AS FAR AS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THEY STARTED AS EARLY AS THEY SHOULD HAVE, THERE IS NOT A DAMNED THING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT."

8. WHAT THE CARTER OVERSTATEMENT STATED ONCE AGAIN IS THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL SAY ANYTHING NECESSARY FOR AN IMMEDIATE ADVANTAGE. HE IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY, WHICH IS IN GRAVE TROUBLE. HE NEEDS THE HELP OF THE REPUBLICANS. ACTUALLY, HE NEEDS RONALD REAGAN MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, BUT REAGAN IS NOT AVAILABLE. SO HE WENT ALL OUT FOR FORD AND KISSINGER, FIGURING PROBABLY TO CLEAN UP HIS QUOTES LATER.

9. HENRY KISSINGER HAS BEEN HANGING AROUND WASHINGTON FOR JUST SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY. HE BELIEVES IN AN "ABSOLUTE CONTINUUM" OF THE KISSINGER-FORD POLICIES, ESPECIALLY, THE WHITE HOUSE BELIEVES, IN PERSONNEL. HE WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECTLY WILLING TO BE A PERMANENT SECRETARY OF STATE.

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10. IN THE DRIVEWAY LATER, WITH THE FAMILIAR THICKET OF MICROPHONES THRUST IN HIS FACE AND THE CAMERAS WHIRRING, HE WAS ENJOYING HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE BACK IN THE SUN.

11. HE HAS, SINCE HIS UNWELCOME RETIREMENT, BEEN MAKING CRITICAL STATEMENTS ABOUT CARTER'S POSITIONS ON EURO-COMMUNISM, REPARATIONS ON VIETNAM, AND OTHER SUBJECTS.

12. BUT, WITH THE COMPLACENCY IN THE FACE OF CONTRADICTION THAT WAS ONE OF THE HALLMARKS OF HIS LONG STEWARDSHIP, HE MURMURED, "I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF FOREIGN POLICY AS BIPARTISAN."

13. THERE IS STILL SOME DISPUTE AS TO HOW DIFFERENT THE SUBSTANCE OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY HAS BECOME IN THE "NEW SPIRIT" ADMINISTRATION. ALAS, THE KISSINGER METHOD IS BEING FOLLOWED BY CYRUS VANCE, A MAN NOT EQUIPPED FOR THE RAZZLE-DAZZLE, ONE-MAN-SHOW STYLE OF HIS PREDECESSOR. AGAIN WE HAVE A SECRETARY OF STATE WHO APPEARS TO HAVE NO HOME.

14. UPON HIS APPOINTMENT, VANCE ANNOUNCED A WHOLLY

LAUDABLE INTENTION TO SPEND SOME TIME IN WASHINGTON
THINKING, INSTEAD OF RACING AROUND THE GLOBE AS IF THERE
WERE NOT A SINGLE U.S. DIPLOMAT DEPLOYED ANYWHERE.

15. FIRST HE WENT TO MOSCOW FOR SALT TALKS, AND PRAC-
TICALLY GOT ESCORTED TO THE BORDER BY THE SOVIET POLICE
ONCE THEY GOT A LOOK AT THE U.S. PROPOSAL.

16. HE IS NOW JUST BACK FROM THE MIDDLE EAST, IN AN
ECHO OF "SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY," WHICH HAD THE SAME RESULTS,
NAMELY NOTHING.

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17. HE WAS THOROUGHLY ROUGHED UP AT AN OFFICIAL DINNER
BY MENAHEM BEGIN, ISRAEL'S PRIME MINISTER. BEGIN, WHOSE
TASTE DOES NOT BEGIN TO APPROXIMATE HIS INTRANSIGENCE,
CHOSE THE OCCASION TO LAUNCH A PARTICULARLY VIRULENT
ATTACK ON THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.

18. "THAT ORGANIZATION, THE PHILOSOPHY OF WHICH IS
BASED ON AN ARABIC MEIN KAMPF, IS NOT PARTNER... AND
NEVER WILL BE A PARTNER...TO ANY TALKS," HE SAID, SUG-
GESTING STRONGLY THAT HIS GUEST OF HONOR WAS TRYING TO
PUSH HIM INTO TRAFFIC WITH THE DEVIL.

19. VANCE HAD CERTAINLY NOT TRAVELED SEVERAL THOUSAND
MILES TO HEAR THAT SORT OF TALK. AND HE DIDN'T NEED TO.
BEGIN HAD SAID THE SAME THING TO JIMMY CARTER IN THE
OVAL OFFICE JUST WEEKS BEFORE.

20. WHY DID HE GO? HENRY KISSINGER INFORMED VANCE WITH
HIS UNFAILING CERTITUDE, THAT THE LEADERS OF THE MIDDLE
EAST EXPECT HOUSE CALLS.

21. VANCE WILL HARDLY GET HIS SHIRTS BACK FROM THE
LAUNDRY WHEN IT'S WHEELS UP AGAIN. THIS TIME, IT'S
CHINA, AND THE PROSPECTS FOR COMING BACK WITH ANYTHING
MORE THAN SOUVENIRS AND JET-LAG ARE EQUALLY DIM.

22. THE PROBLEM IS TAIWAN. CHINA HAS MADE IT PLAIN
THAT A GREAT LEAP FORWARD IN RELATIONS IS POSSIBLE,
ONCE THAT STONE IN ITS SHOE IS REMOVED. CHINA WANTS US
TO ABANDON TAIWAN.

23. NOTHING INDICATES THAT JIMMY CARTER HAS MADE UP
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HIS MIND ON THIS EXPLOSIVE QUESTION. NOR IS IT LIKELY THAT IF HE HAD DECIDED TO LET TAIWAN GO, HE WOULD WANT TO SAY SO, PARTICULARLY AT A MOMENT WHEN HE IS EMBROILED WITH THE RIGHT WING OVER PANAMA.

24. VANCE DOESN'T NEED TO GO THROUGH FOUR TIME ZONES TO FIND OUT HOW THE CHINESE FEEL ABOUT THE QUESTION. LET'S JUST HOPE THE POOR MAN DOESN'T GET TOLD IN THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE THAT UNLESS JIMMY CARTER IS READY TO FACE RIGHT-WING CHARGES THAT HE "LOST TAIWAN" NOTHING WILL CHANGE.

25. PROBABLY THE BIGGEST FAVOR ANYONE COULD DO THE SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD BE TO LET THE AIR OUT OF THE TIRES OF HIS BIG AIR FORCE JET UNTIL HE KNOWS EXACTLY WHERE HE'S GOING -- AND WHY. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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